

# Border Wall Needs Private Property. But Some Texans Won't Give Up Their Land Without a Fight.



*Image by U.S.  
Customs and  
Border  
Protection*

Government lawyers have taken the first step in trying to seize private property using the power of eminent domain to build a border wall – a contentious step that could put a lengthy legal wrinkle into President Trump’s plans to build hundreds of miles of wall, reports ***The Washington Post***.

Previous eminent domain attempts along the Texas border have led to more than a decade of court battles, some of which date to George W. Bush’s administration and have yet to be resolved, according to the *Post*’s **Katie Zezima** and **Mark Berman**. Many landowners are vowing to fight anew.

The reporters quoted Gerald S. Dickinson, an assistant professor of law at the University of Pittsburgh, who said this newest fight will be different because the earlier effort mostly included federal government land.

“If it’s going to be a contiguous wall across the entire

southwest border, you're talking about a massive land seizure of private property," he said.

**Read the *Post* article.**